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## FOREIGN DEPARTMENT



IN CHARGE OF

LAVINIA L. DOCK, R.N.

OUR MEMBERS IN INDIA

THE *Nursing Journal of India*, for December, contains reports of the seventh annual conference of the Association of Nursing Superintendents of India, and the fourth of the Trained Nurses' Association of India. The two bodies met in Bangalore. They are, like our large societies, independent of each other in capacities, but affiliate for international membership under the name National Association of Trained Nurses of India. Nine English nurses in India originally started the association of superintendents, and this society brought into being the association of nurses. They are now rejoicing in their international membership, but not more so than we, who dimly realize something of their enormous problems. Mrs. Etha Butcher Klosz (Johns Hopkins) has returned to her post as editor of the *Journal*. During her absence in the United States and Europe it was carried on by her sister.

The new officers of the Indian societies are—for the nurses' association: president, Miss Tindall; vice-president, Miss Mill; secretary, Miss M. Bonser; and for the superintendents' society: president, Miss Martin; vice-president, Miss Creighton (Illinois Training School); and secretary, Miss Henry. The former president of the superintendents' association, Miss Tippetts, was married in October and is now Mrs. Davidson.

A memorial to the late Miss Thorpe was agreed upon, to take the form of a bronze medal, and the international proposition for a "Chair of Nursing" in London as a memorial of nurses to Florence Nightingale was considered, and steps taken to receive subscriptions.

Editorially, the *Journal* says: "It is good to be able to record a decided movement in favour of a universal public system of nursing, akin to the medical, for India, that which can be recognized by government, if not actually official, and be available for all to distinguish between the trained and untrained nurse, whether she be in hospital, institution, or private practise."

Our American training schools should all subscribe for the *Nursing Journal of India*. It is \$1.25 for the United States and Canada, and may be ordered from Mrs. M. Barr, Datoobhoy Mansions, Mayo Road, Bombay. It is a record of vast and patient effort on educational lines.

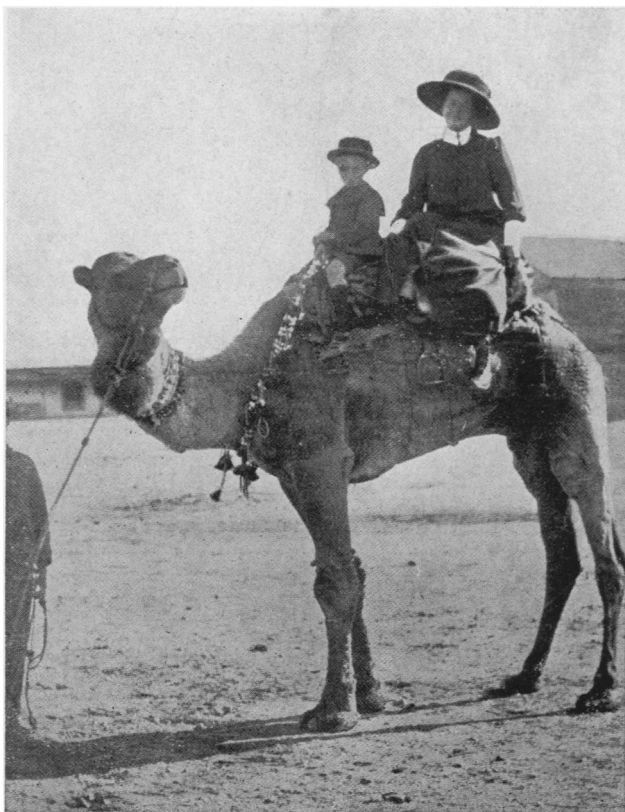
## ITEMS

FROM Australia comes an interesting report (the 18th) of the District Trained Nursing Society, with headquarters in Adelaide. There are 18 branches or districts, with, says the report, a most excellent staff of permanent nurses,—women of superior education, both general and professional, possessed of abundant energy, and brimful of sympathy with their patients. The new superintending Sister, Miss Bidmead, is one of the few possessors of the Royal Red Cross, received for exceptional nursing service in the army. The nurses cover their vast distances in pony carriage, and—do they sometimes ride on camelback? (See illustration.)

In contrast with the single standard of training of the Australian district nurse is the glimpse we get of the double standard in England, as afforded by the long, abusive, arrogant, and ignorant letter from the honorary secretary of a society employing cheap untrained nurses for the poor, as a “charity,” written to the editor of the *British Journal of Nursing*, December 7th, and her reply in the same issue.

We American nurses simply do not know what it is to be bullied as English nurses are bullied for defending the interests of the sick poor. In mid December, a dinner was tendered to Mrs. Fenwick for her twenty-five years of service to nursing, and well did she deserve it, for the whole of this twenty-five years has been spent in resisting just such ruinous domination, just such contemptuous mishandling of the social and professional problems involved in nursing. She has been the first English militant.

THE Norwegian Trained Nurses' Association has begun a journal, called *Sykpleien*, edited by Sister Bergljot Larsson, president of the association.



**"NURSE AND HER STEED."**